



# Department of Justice

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## **DEFENDANT SENTENCED FOR IMPORTING FIREARMS**

*Canadian Man Pleads Guilty to Importing Firearms  
into the United States Near Fort Covington, New York*

February 17, 2012

[Plattsburgh, New York]—United States Attorney Richard S. Hartunian, United States Homeland Security Investigations Resident Agent in Charge, Rouses Point, Leroy Tario, and Border Patrol Agent in Charge, Burke, Michael Casey announced today that ROSS JAMES, age 30, of British Columbia, Canada, was sentenced on February 17, 2012, to 12 months incarceration and 3 years supervised release by United States District Court Judge David N. Hurd in Utica, New York. JAMES pled guilty on September 8, 2011, in front of Judge Hurd to one count of Illegal Importation of a Firearm, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 922(d).

JAMES and two accomplices - John Duder and Donald Gallaher - were arrested on July 22, 2011, after JAMES and Duder illegally entered the United States near Westville, New York, and Gallaher entered the United States at the Port Covington Port of Entry. Shortly after JAMES and Duder entered the United States, all three suspects were arrested by Border Patrol agents, who discovered that JAMES was carrying loaded firearms. Duder pled guilty to misdemeanor Entry Without Inspection in violation of Title 8, United States Code, Section 1325, and was sentenced to time served on August 2, 2011, by Magistrate Judge Larry Kudrle in Plattsburgh, New York. Donald Gallaher pled guilty to Illegal Importation of Firearms, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 922(l), on January 5, 2012, and is awaiting sentencing by United States District Court Judge Norman A. Mordue.

The investigation was conducted by United States Homeland Security Investigations, Customs and Border Protection and United States Border Patrol from Burke, New York. The case is being prosecuted by the United States Attorney's Office for the Northern District of New York

Any questions may be directed to Assistant United States Attorney Julie S. Pfluger in Plattsburgh, New York at 518-314-7800.